

NAME

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations presents



COLLABORATION CONFERENCE 2015

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 16–17, 2015 | HOUSTON

#GEOCC | [BIT.LY/GEOCC2015](http://bit.ly/GEOCC2015)

Held in partnership with
Philanthropy Southwest

geo
GRANTMAKERS FOR
EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS



ABOUT GEO

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations is a diverse community of more than 500 grantmakers working to reshape the way philanthropy operates. We are committed to advancing smarter grantmaking practices that enable nonprofits to achieve better results. The GEO community provides grantmakers with the resources and connections to build knowledge and improve practice in areas that are critical to nonprofit success: strengthening relationships with grantees, supporting nonprofit resilience, learning for improvement and collaborating for greater impact. More information on GEO and a host of resources and links for grantmakers are available at www.geofunders.org.



Connecting Grantmakers. Inspiring Excellence.

OUR PARTNER

Philanthropy Southwest brings together philanthropists, foundations and partners, fostering deep relationships to harness the power of a shared passion for social change. With 1,600 foundation trustees and 700 foundation staff from 230 grantmaking organizations across the Southwest, our membership encompasses diverse geographic locations, sizes and missions, including private, community, operating and corporate foundations, and corporate giving programs. We advance philanthropy as a profession, providing leadership to inspire forward thinking, promote ethical practice, and inform effective grantmaking.

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COLLABORATION CONFERENCE 2015

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GEO'S CONFERENCES ARE PAPER-LITE

As part of our conference sustainability plan, GEO does not provide printed copies of session handouts or presentations, speaker bios, or the participant roster. GEO will make session resources available electronically for download through our website at bit.ly/GEOCC2015 and our conference app.



CONFERENCE APP

The conference app contains the important details and fun information needed to take full advantage of your conference experience. To download the app, simply visit <https://crowd.cc/s/9HsM> or scan the QR code below.



Today you and nearly 300 other grantmakers from the GEO community and around the country come together to explore just how collaboration allows us to combine the expertise and resources of multiple players to make more meaningful impact on systemic problems.

On behalf of the GEO staff; the conference planning committee; our sponsors; and our local regional partner, Philanthropy Southwest, welcome to Houston! We are thrilled you are here with us for in-depth sessions, structured networking, and informal conversations with peers and experts in collaboration. The ways in which grantmakers collaborate with fellow funders and provide support to help nonprofits work together may vary in scope and intent. No matter the method of collaboration you pursue, you know that it requires both time and resources, and forces us and our partners to think differently about the way we do our work. Whether

you're a seasoned collaborator or less accustomed to working in partnership with others, you know that none of this work is easy.

You're attending this conference because you are already committed to collaboration, whether in big or small ways. Throughout the next two days, you will hear directly from your peers about the challenges they've faced, what they've done to ensure that their efforts succeed, and what guidance they would offer on how we can all better participate in and support collaboration. Through case studies with representatives from real-world collaborations, skill-building workshops and breakout sessions, there will be plenty for you to dig into while you're here.

As you look to your own collaborative initiatives in the coming days, weeks and months, we hope this event will leave you with new understanding of your work, new ideas to implement and new relationships you can call on for support.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen P. Enright".

Kathleen P. Enright
President and CEO
Grantmakers for Effective Organizations

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Gahl-Mills".

Karen Gahl-Mills
Executive Director
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
Conference Planning Committee Chair



RESOURCEGUIDE



Session Resources. Participant Roster. Speaker Bios.

It's all online. Just visit bit.ly/GEOCC2015 or download our [conference app](#).



Twitter #GEOCC

Use this hashtag to share your insights from the conference and to see what others are saying as well.

@geofunders

GEO's Twitter handle; follow it for updates during the conference and for news, resources and opportunities throughout the year.



LinkedIn bit.ly/LinkedInGEO

GEO members are invited to join our LinkedIn group to discuss and exchange ideas that don't quite fit into 140 characters. Since the group is open only to GEO members, it's also a great environment for giving input, seeking advice from your peers and sharing job postings, and GEO staff regularly post resources, learning opportunities and more.



Network With Members

A great resource for grantmaker collaboration, our Network With Members online tool allows GEO members to connect with each other by searching a database of grantmakers based on geographic location, role, grantmaking interests, organization and last name.

Visit www.geofunders.org/network-with-members to use this feature and to join the ranks of those leading the charge for more effective grantmaking.



The Huffington Post

GEO President and CEO Kathleen Enright shares her own insights on grantmaking as a contributor to *The Huffington Post*. You can view her posts to the site at www.huffingtonpost.com/kathleen-p-enright.



Additional Resources for Grantmakers

www.geofunders.org

Visit GEO's website for more learning opportunities and resources for grantmakers, including GEO publications and upcoming events.

MONDAY NOV 16 SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Registration is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the Third Level balcony.

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast
Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Opening Session and Home
Team Meetup #1: The Traits
Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

(Select one of six options)

B1. Nurturing Shared Nonprofit Leadership
Magnolia (Third Level)

B2. Governing an Evolving Donor
Collaborative
Cottonwood (Third Level)

B3. Strengthening Intersectionality
Through Collaborative Grantmaking
Dogwood (Third Level)

B4. Staying Adaptive in Collective Impact
Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

B5. When It's Family, It's Complicated
Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

B6. Balancing Individual Interests
and Shared Goals
Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

12:15 – 2:15 p.m.

Plenary Luncheon: The Building Blocks
of Collaborative Culture
Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

2:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Case Study Conversations

*(Seven cases that repeat over two rounds;
select one in each round)*

Round 1: 2:45 – 3:30 p.m.

Case Study Selection: _____

Round 2: 3:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Case Study Selection: _____

C1. Boston Grantmakers Align Diverse
Funding Streams to Reduce Youth Violence
Magnolia (Third Level)

C2. National Foundation Joins With Local
Grantmakers in 10 Communities to Invest
in Teens
Cottonwood (Third Level)

C3. Leadership of Out-of-School-Time
Collaborative Shifts From Funders to
Nonprofits
Dogwood (Third Level)

C4. An Alabama Nonprofit Partnership
Developed to Benefit Young Children
Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

C5. Coalition of Funders, Infrastructure
Groups Sets Out to Increase Diversity
in Philanthropy
Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

C6. Houston Funders Pool Resources
to Strengthen the Health Care Safety Net
Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

C7. Network of Grantmaking
Collaboratives Aims to Deliver
on the Dreams of New Americans
Window Box (Second Level)

4:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Active Hour (optional)
*Visit the conference registration desk
for location information.*

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Evening Reception
Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Dine Arouds (optional)
*Off-site (Meet in the hotel lobby
for a 7:00 p.m. departure)*

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE NOV 17 TUESDAY

Registration is open from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Third Level balcony.

6:30 – 7:30 a.m.

Active Hour (optional)

Visit the conference registration desk for location information.

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Home Team Meetup #2: The Lessons

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Skill-Building Workshops

(Select one of seven options)

W1. Strengthen Your Collaborative Leadership Skills

Magnolia (Third Level)

W2. Don't Let Culture Eat Collaboration for Breakfast

Cottonwood (Third Level)

W3. Tools for Collective Sensemaking

Dogwood (Third Level)

W4. Investing in Capacity to Work With Communities

Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

W5. Facing Funders' Challenges in Walking the Talk

Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

W6. Using Artistic Experiences to Facilitate Community Change

Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

W7. Putting an Intersectional Approach Into Practice

Window Box (Second Level)

12:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Home Team Meetup #3: The Actions, and Closing Plenary Luncheon: What Do Nonprofit Leaders Really Think of Collaboration?
Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

GEO MEMBER LOUNGE



Stop by the Member Lounge to connect with others in our community, check your email, or grab a cup of coffee and a snack.

The Member Lounge is located in Mesquite, on the Third Level, and is open:

MONDAY

7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

You can also connect with peers in the "Collaboration Stations" located throughout the meeting space.

MEET YOUR HOMETEAM



To help supplement the conference program with creative, more intimate networking experiences that encourage rich discussions about collaboration and deepen learning, you have been randomly assigned to a small peer cohort (“Home Team”) for the duration of the event.

Your small group of participants will meet three times throughout the conference, giving you a chance to engage in ongoing synthesis of session takeaways, connect with peers and acquire new knowledge for collaboration.

You'll find your Home Team assignment printed on the front of your conference name badge. Make sure to join your teammates at the table corresponding to your team number in the Imperial Ballroom at the following times:

1. The Traits	2. The Lessons	3. The Actions
Day 1: Monday, Nov. 16, 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. (opening session)	Day 2: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. (immediately after the networking breakfast)	Day 2: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. (over lunch, before the closing plenary)

During each meetup, you will practice the art of collaborating in real time by completing some individual reflection and team activities. **The materials for each meetup start on page 27. There is no pre-work.**

If you have any questions, just ask your team's Ambassador. S/he volunteered to be a familiar and friendly face and help facilitate your team's work. If you can't locate your team, GEO staff are here to help!

NOV 16 MONDAY

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

Enjoy a breakfast buffet as you network with other participants and get ready to kick off the conference.

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Opening Session and Home Team Meetup #1: The Traits

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

After you fuel up with some breakfast and settle in, join your Home Team at your assigned table.

This initial meetup will kick off your conference and Home Team experience. You will form some new relationships, help pull out the unique perspectives of fellow conference participants and think about an aspect of your collaborative work on which you seek peer input. Later, through creative reflection and discussion, you will uncover the traits and characteristics of the best collaborator(s) you know and share these traits with the rest of your team to uncover patterns. Find your worksheet on pages 27 – 29.

Speaker:



Kate Hanisian, Design Impact

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Break

If you haven't already, use this time to register for an Active Hour or Dine Around. To learn more and to sign up, please visit the conference registration desk.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**Breakout Sessions (Select one of six options)****B1. Nurturing Shared Nonprofit Leadership***Magnolia (Third Level)**Session designer: Elissa Perry, Management Assistance Group*

Participation in social movements and networks can create difficult demands for nonprofit leaders — and for the grantmakers who support them. Nonprofits acknowledge that failure to build power and lead within their organizations and across issue areas undermines their ability to advance social change. At the same time, funders can do more to support their grantees by increasing their tolerance for the complexity and tension that arise with shared movement and network leadership. For example, success in networks and movements cannot always be predicted or easily measured — this tests the limits of traditional outcome-based funding and requires more funder flexibility. Join this session with a foundation program director, a nonprofit executive director and a network capacity builder to learn about the inherent complications and rewards of collaborative leadership. The speakers will lift up promising practices and guiding principles, based on their own successes and stumbles. You will create a personal action plan with steps to take to recognize and nurture effective shared leadership, better support your grantees when no single person or group is calling the shots, and more effectively explain the complexity of shared leadership to your trustees.

Speakers:

- Vincent Pan, Chinese for Affirmative Action
- Elissa Perry, Management Assistance Group
- Gladys Washington, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation

B2. Governing an Evolving Donor Collaborative*Cottonwood (Third Level)**Session designer: Daniel Widome, Arabella Advisors*

Choosing the right governance model for a co-funding effort can make or break the partnership. In most situations, this is neither a one-time nor a simple decision, as it defines how participating funders make decisions, communicate externally, expand or exit membership, and more. A variety of possible governance models exist both for funders that pool their resources and jointly make grants, as well as for those that prefer a looser structure. As these collaborative efforts evolve, their governance needs may too. During this “World Café”-style session, you will gain exposure to the real-life governance evolution of a growing collaborative effort: the Collaborative for Student Success, a fund that invests in building support for the successful implementation of the Common Core State Standards. This session will help you identify appropriate governance options for your collaborative efforts by talking through how peers have made these decisions and then adjusted structures and actions over time.

Speakers:

- Chris Hobbs, Arabella Advisors
- Richard F. McKeon, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust
- Karen Nussle, Collaborative for Student Success

B3. Strengthening Intersectionality Through Collaborative Grantmaking

Dogwood (Third Level)

Session designer: Melinda Fine, TCC Group

Most grantmakers recognize that social issues are fundamentally interconnected. At the same time, their institutions may strive for narrow strategy priorities so as to delineate, fund and evaluate achievable goals. This “silo-ing” of portfolios constrains grantmakers’ efforts to support movement building across constituencies and social justice issues — issues that grantees see as interrelated. In this session, a grantmaker, an intermediary and a grantee will share insights, challenges and key lessons drawn from their experiences with pooled-funding collaborations that embrace an intersectional strategy across social issues. Their stories and advice stem from two long-lasting national funds: Communities for Public Education Reform and the Four Freedoms Fund. Collectively, these funds supported work across immigrant and LGBTQ rights, education reform and juvenile justice by engaging 87 foundation partners and granting \$117 million to 390 grantees. Join this session to share your own successes and challenges in partnering with other funders to support intersectional strategy efforts and social movements. You will leave with knowledge of approaches like making direct grants to multi-issue alliances and coalitions, “ecosystem” funding to clusters of groups with shared goals, and co-funding cross-issue campaigns.

Speakers:

- Patrick Horvath, *The Denver Foundation*
- Michele Lord, *NEO Philanthropy*
- Julien Ross, *Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition*

B4. Staying Adaptive in Collective Impact

Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

Session designer: Marilyn Darling, Fourth Quadrant Partners

The first article on collective impact appeared in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review* four years ago. Since then, the concept has taken on a life of its own. Many communities are trying to launch collective impact work or already are implementing their own initiatives. In this session, designed for grantmakers who are engaged in a collective impact initiative (or an effort similar in scope and intent), you will wrestle with whether or not these activities are yielding the results they were designed to achieve. Two of the people closely involved in the development of StriveTogether, one of the first exemplars of the collective impact model, will explain what they did, why they did it and how it compares to what is being done today. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your own experiences engaging in similar initiatives. You also will discuss in small groups how grantmakers keep learning together in an adaptive way around a good idea like collective impact without relying on it as a “silver bullet” approach.

Speakers:

- Marilyn Darling, *Fourth Quadrant Partners*
- Jeff Edmondson, *StriveTogether*
- Marian Urquilla, *Strategy Lift*

B5. When It's Family, It's Complicated

Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

Session designer: Michael Moody, The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University

Given the prevalence of family donors in the grantmaking community, most funders who engage in collaboration find themselves working closely with family foundations as partners. Yet the question of how the family nature of these grantmaking groups affects their engagement in and support of collaborative work is not often one we address. What are the special opportunities and obstacles that arise in these co-funding arrangements? How do family dynamics or cross-generational leadership in family foundations affect collaborative engagements? What is different about partnerships that include small family funders, often led by living donors or trustees rather than staff? Participants in this session will tackle these often neglected questions and will help both family grantmakers and those who collaborate with them to make their partnerships more effective. You will help shape the direction of the discussion by posing your own questions and challenges at the start, rather than at the end of the session. Experienced family funder speakers will provide practical tips and takeaway lessons drawn from their own diverse collaboration experiences.

Speakers:

- Katherine Lorenz, *The Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation*
- Laura McCargar, *Perrin Family Foundation*
- Michael Moody, *The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University*

B6. Balancing Individual Interests and Shared Goals

Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

Session designer: Anne Miskey, Funders Together to End Homelessness

One of the greatest challenges for stakeholders in cross-sector collaboration is staying true to their organizational missions while also behaving in a way that advances shared goals and benefits the broader community. During this session, you will hear from grantmakers from three different cities — Houston, Los Angeles and San Diego — that are partnering with business and government to eradicate homelessness by increasing and aligning funding streams. Speakers will provide honest perspectives about what it takes to capitalize on each partner's contributions, overcome deadlock among key stakeholders and develop community ownership of social change efforts. Join this discussion to learn how grantmakers can navigate elephants in the room and the bumps in the road that arise when we work more collaboratively. You will leave with ideas for strengthening your own public-private partnerships; leveraging government funding through investment of smaller, philanthropic dollars; and using the collective voice of philanthropy to move toward shared, community goals.

Speakers:

- Emily Bradley, *United Way of Greater Los Angeles*
- Kelli King-Jackson, *The Simmons Foundation*
- Nancy Sasaki, *Alliance Healthcare Foundation*

12:15 – 2:15 p.m.

Plenary Luncheon: The Building Blocks of Collaborative Culture

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

What can we learn from the experiences of grantmakers who have developed an organizational culture that supports, rather than undermines, collaboration? Oftentimes, the most advanced collaborations involve organizations that have systems, infrastructure, policies and talent in place that allow them to effectively engage with partners to effect change. Taking an inside look at a grantmaker known for flexing its collaborative muscles, we will learn how the Hill-Snowdon Foundation is cultivating a collaborative culture and how it plays out in its relationships with key partners and its day-to-day work. Executive Director Nat Chioke Williams and Trustee Ashley Snowdon Blanchard will share how they have informally and formally embedded collaboration into their work. The foundation employs a unique staffing structure and has demonstrated a willingness to experiment, be flexible and take risks in service of collective action. An essential component of the organization's success and credibility as a collaborator has been a commitment to shared goals, and the intentional allocation of the time and space needed for staff to develop deep relationships and foster partnerships built on trust. Bring your questions and join this moderated dialogue about cultivating a productive, collaborative culture in our workplaces and the places where we partner with others.

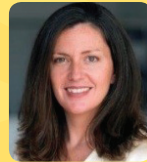
Speakers:



Ashley Snowdon Blanchard,
Hill-Snowdon Foundation



Nat Chioke Williams,
Hill-Snowdon Foundation



Kathleen P. Enright,
GEO (moderator)

2:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Break

Grab an afternoon coffee or pick-me-up snack.

2:45 – 4:30 p.m.

Case Study Conversations

Round 1: 2:45 – 3:30 p.m. | Round 2: 3:45 – 4:30 p.m.

During these facilitated conversations, you will hear and learn from peer practitioners — from foundations and other sectors — who work together in formal collaborations, informal partnerships or other collective efforts. Each pair of speakers will offer context-setting remarks about the ins and outs of their collaboration. Then, with the help of an outside moderator, you will engage in a candid, participatory conversation about lessons learned, overcoming common collaboration challenges, the impact of these efforts on grantees and more. You will have the opportunity to join two different case study conversations, each lasting 45 minutes. Bring your own experiential knowledge and questions about motivations for coming together, different collaboration structures and roles, and navigating conflicts. **Each case study repeats over two rounds, and detailed descriptions follow on pages 13 – 19. Select one of seven options during each round.**

Case Study	Location
<p>C1. Boston Grantmakers Align Diverse Funding Streams to Reduce Youth Violence</p>	<p><i>Magnolia (Third Level)</i></p>
<p>C2. National Foundation Joins With Local Grantmakers in 10 Communities to Invest in Teens</p>	<p><i>Cottonwood (Third Level)</i></p>
<p>C3. Leadership of Out-of-School-Time Collaborative Shifts From Funders to Nonprofits</p>	<p><i>Dogwood (Third Level)</i></p>
<p>C4. An Alabama Nonprofit Partnership Developed to Benefit Young Children</p>	<p><i>Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)</i></p>
<p>C5. Coalition of Funders, Infrastructure Groups Sets Out to Increase Diversity in Philanthropy</p>	<p><i>Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)</i></p>
<p>C6. Houston Funders Pool Resources to Strengthen the Health Care Safety Net</p>	<p><i>Arboretum 5 (Second Level)</i></p>
<p>C7. Network of Grantmaking Collaboratives Aims to Deliver on the Dreams of New Americans</p>	<p><i>Window Box (Second Level)</i></p>

C1. Boston Grantmakers Align Diverse Funding Streams to Reduce Youth Violence

Magnolia (Third Level)

Join this conversation if you want to know more about how key stakeholders can collectively start to address a communitywide challenge. Hear from peers who are tackling youth violence in Boston by aligning highly fragmented funding streams, agreeing to common outcomes and creating multiple paths to grantmaker engagement.

In Boston in 2008, a spike in youth violence, and a desire to keep young people safe and on track to a positive future, prompted the State Street Foundation to fund research on what was happening in the city. Findings revealed that public and private grantmakers were spending approximately \$250 million annually to curb youth violence, yet some admitted that they had little knowledge about peers' activities or effective prevention strategies. To create a space for knowledge sharing and dialogue, and to help the region align its efforts more strategically, State Street launched the Youth Violence Prevention Funder Learning Collaborative. Since 2009, the collaborative has grown to include more than 75 private, public and nonprofit organizations that represent over \$400 million in annual grantmaking and public resources. Consultants at Root Cause manage the collaborative, and a small group of participating grantmakers funds its core operations and appoints staff to serve on a steering committee. To align diverse funding streams and organizations around shared outcomes, members of the collaborative agreed to a primary strategy of supporting career pathways for youth in middle school through post-secondary education. The collaborative also developed a framework that defines key program elements and common measures, which participating funders use to guide their grantmaking decisions. The framework is flexible, allowing grantmakers to contribute to a sustained reduction in youth violence in the way that makes the most sense for them, whether they're focused on workforce development, mental health or other issues.

Speakers:

- Karley Ausiello, United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley
- Margaret Leipsitz, Root Cause
- Meghan Duffy, GEO (moderator)

Collaboration Fast Facts

Name	Youth Violence Prevention Funder Learning Collaborative
Partner composition	More than 50 Boston public and private funders and more than 25 content experts, with support for core network operations provided by five grantmakers: the State Street Foundation, the Boston Foundation, the United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley, BNY Mellon, and the Treffer Foundation
Geographic region(s) served	Boston (five neighborhoods: Bowdoin-Geneva, Dudley Square, Grove Hall, Morton and Norfolk Streets, and South End-Lower Roxbury)
Issue area(s)	Positive youth development, violence prevention, and community and economic development
Duration of collaboration	2009 – present

C2. National Foundation Joins With Local Grantmakers in 10 Communities to Invest in Teens

Cottonwood (Third Level)

Join this conversation if you want to explore the role your foundation could play in a national-local collaboration and how to engage in shared learning before jumping into formal funding activities. Hear how a group of funders’ willingness to listen, compromise and defer to each other’s strengths paved the way for deeper partnerships.

In 2012, the Jim Joseph Foundation began conversations with other grantmakers about investing in new strategies to educate teens and engage them in meaningful Jewish life. Seeking to advance the funders’ discussions and compile actionable data to inform their work, the foundation developed a research plan and sought input from national and local peers. Based on initial feedback from this peer group, the Jim Joseph Foundation redesigned the research. The foundation’s willingness to act on outside input and go back to the drawing board established trust and set the stage for closer working relationships. Following release of the study, which called for new investment in community-based education initiatives, the Jim Joseph Foundation identified co-investors in 10 different communities where there was interest in supporting pilot experiments planned and led by local partners. The funders, including Rose Community Foundation in Denver, also reached agreement on a shared set of outcomes and committed to collectively evaluate the experiments. To date, co-funders have committed \$46 million over seven years to launch initiatives in 7 of the 10 communities. The collaboration is in full operation: grantmakers are currently focused on developing a shared governance structure, advancing evaluation plans, and supporting grantee learning and improvement.

Speakers:

- Josh Miller, Jim Joseph Foundation
- Lisa Farber Miller, Rose Community Foundation
- Arti Freeman, Ontario Trillium Foundation (moderator)

Collaboration Fast Facts

Name	Jewish Teen Education and Engagement Funder Collaborative
Partner composition	15 private, community and family foundations and Jewish Federations (11 limit their funding to a specific geographic region and the others fund nationally)
Geographic region(s) served	Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Los Angeles, New York, San Diego and San Francisco
Issue area(s)	Education, youth development, culture and religion
Duration of collaboration	2012 – present

C3. Leadership of Out-of-School-Time Collaborative Shifts From Funders to Nonprofits

Dogwood (Third Level)

Join this conversation to discuss how grantmaker and nonprofit partners made midcourse shifts in the structure of their collaborative, giving grantees more decision-making power and control over the group's focus. Talk with the current and former chair of the collaborative about strategies for boosting trust and commitment when partners change or the reality hits that a prevailing strategy is not working.

The Silicon Valley Out-of-School-Time Collaborative invests in a cohort of regional nonprofit organizations to sustain and strengthen their ability to serve more students with stronger academic and social-emotional programming. Partners in the collaborative include three family foundations that together made an initial \$1.6 million pooled investment over three years, and eight nonprofits that collectively serve more than 7,000 low-income middle and high school students outside normal school hours. From the start of the partnership, funders and grantees have held regular meetings focused on shared learning, trust building and dialogue. A midcourse evaluation of the collaborative shows that grantees are stronger, programs are better and are reaching more students, and funders have adopted new, collaborative grantmaking practices. Recently, the funders invested another \$900,000 for a second phase of the work and committed to more flexibility — letting grantees drive the group's planning and learning efforts, and manage consultants, budgeting and group communications. Grantees also opted to redirect the focus of the collaborative from capacity building to program development and evaluation, with the added goal of sharing effective after-school and summer program models with others, both inside and outside the region.

Speakers:

- Elise Cutini, Silicon Valley Children's Fund
- Ash McNeely, Sand Hill Foundation
- Michele Rone Cooper, McAuley Ministries (moderator)

Collaboration Fast Facts

Name	Silicon Valley Out-of-School-Time Collaborative
Partner composition	Three family foundations and eight regional nonprofits, with support from two consulting firms
Geographic region(s) served	Silicon Valley in California (San Mateo and Santa Clara counties)
Issue area(s)	After-school and summer learning and positive youth development for middle and high school students
Duration of collaboration	2010 – present, with funders thinking about exiting the collaborative in 2016

C4. An Alabama Nonprofit Partnership Developed to Benefit Young Children

Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

Join this conversation to discuss the ins and outs of building and sustaining a long-term statewide advocacy coalition supported by a core group of funders. Hear from two members of the coalition about the partners’ process for building trust and creating well-defined roles, and the rationale for supporting coalition building and grassroots organizing. Help troubleshoot how to maintain support and interest in a narrow issue when progress is steady but slow and other community challenges or collaborative opportunities arise.

In 2006, less than 2 percent of Alabama’s children were served by state-funded pre-K programs. Seeking to expand availability and access to high-quality pre-K, three statewide nonprofits joined together with Alabama Giving, the state’s grantmaker network, to form the Alabama School Readiness Alliance. ASRA builds support for pre-K expansion by collaborating with civic leaders, advocating for increased public and private funding, and raising public awareness. ASRA’s partner nonprofits spent a year planning, codifying roles and developing operating procedures for their coalition. This infrastructure allowed members to effectively leverage each other’s strengths, attract funding from 18 foundations and 18 corporations, build a cross-sector network, and improve pre-K access for children. Despite the coalition’s longevity, unified voice and numerous state-level wins, partners now are wrestling with how to maintain long-term support for their single-issue agenda and determine the right lifespan for their collaboration.

Speakers:

- Caroline Novak, A+ Education Partnership
- Jera Stribling, Alabama Giving
- Lori Bartczak, GEO (moderator)

Collaboration Fast Facts

Name	Alabama School Readiness Alliance
Partner composition	A coalition established by four nonprofit organizations, including a statewide funder network, with support from a funders’ collaborative comprising 36 corporate, private, community and family foundations
Geographic region(s) served	Alabama (statewide)
Issue area(s)	Pre-K education
Duration of collaboration	2006 – present

C5. Coalition of Funders, Infrastructure Groups Sets Out to Increase Diversity in Philanthropy

Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

Join this conversation to discuss the challenges and opportunities of managing a collaborative effort aimed at influencing change within a limited time frame and with little formal authority. Hear how partners who committed to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in the sector stayed nimble with their strategies and moved from a bounded coalition to a network-based approach.

In 2010, a group of funders and infrastructure groups came together based on a shared concern about the lack of diverse voices and equitable outcomes in the field of philanthropy. Called the D5 Coalition, the group set out to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in the sector, with a focus on gender, ability, race/ethnicity and sexual orientation. Priorities included: helping grantmakers recruit diverse leaders to their teams; identifying and sharing best practices for advancing diversity, equity and inclusion inside foundations; increasing funding to diverse communities; and improving data-collection capacity to measure progress. With a five-year timeline and little direct influence over grantmaking dollars and hiring practices, D5 recognized early on the need to expand its reach and restructure the coalition using a more fluid network-based approach. Members worked to create new ways to engage a wider range of stakeholders and capitalize on changes in the external environment, such as increased awareness and conversation about diversity in the philanthropic community and the nation. Though issues of diversity, equity and inclusion are gaining more attention nationally, D5 is in its final year, and coalition members face an array of questions, including whether, how and where this work should continue.

Speakers:

- *Kelly Brown, D5 Coalition*
- *Mae Hong, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors*
- *Karen Gahl-Mills, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (moderator)*

Collaboration Fast Facts

<i>Name</i>	D5 Coalition
<i>Partner composition</i>	Founding coalition of 18 philanthropy infrastructure groups that spurred a wider network of engagement
<i>Geographic region(s) served</i>	National (U.S.)
<i>Issue area(s)</i>	Diversity, equity and inclusion in philanthropy
<i>Duration of collaboration</i>	2010 – 2015

C6. Houston Funders Pool Resources to Strengthen the Health Care Safety Net

Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

Join this conversation to understand the mechanics of a co-funding initiative designed to foster place-based, systemwide change. Hear two grantmakers candidly discuss how a group of collaborating funders' inability to agree on goals and implementation plans ultimately hampered their ability to make a lasting impact.

In 2007, amid discussions among local funders about ways to better support the health care safety net in Harris County, Texas, an assessment of the state of primary care in the county revealed the fragmentation of the health care system. By 2009, a group of Houston-based grantmakers decided to tackle this problem by pooling funds to promote closer cooperation among community providers, particularly federally qualified health centers that serve all patients regardless of their ability to pay. The Community Clinic Funders' Collaborative grew to include 12 funders, 20 community clinics and five major health institutions, with the Harris County Healthcare Alliance, a membership organization, serving as the key convener and intermediary grants manager. Members of the collaborative invested \$9.3 million; however, each funder made autonomous grants (with distinct goals, timelines and reporting requirements) to the HCHA to further their own visions for the collaborative. Some 21 projects were funded, of which seven still are ongoing. However, the collaborative was unable to bring about the kind of countywide system change its participants envisioned. Members of the collaborative learned about the need to better align their expectations, dollars and grant terms, and to invest significant resources in strong project design and coordination, oversight, and communications.

Speakers:

- Terry Bell, Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Cullen Geiselman, The Cullen Trust for Health Care
- Peter Long, Blue Shield of California Foundation (moderator)

Collaboration Fast Facts

Name	Community Clinic Funders' Collaborative
Partner composition	Twelve funders, 20 community clinics and five health institutions
Geographic region(s) served	Harris County, Texas
Issue area(s)	Health care
Duration of collaboration	2009 – present

C7. Network of Grantmaking Collaboratives Aims to Deliver on the Dreams of New Americans

Window Box (Second Level)

Join this conversation to learn about a multistate network of funder collaboratives focused on building capacity and mobilizing philanthropic support for immigrant communities. Speakers will share how they developed a rapid response to a national policy change, balancing local ownership and flexibility with centralized information sharing and data collection.

In 2012, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees, a national funder affinity group, launched an initiative to support implementation of a new policy benefiting immigrant youth and young adults. Over the past three and a half years, this effort has grown to include 12 funder collaboratives in nine states, and a total of more than \$10 million invested to date. All of the collaboratives in GCIR's network include nonprofit service providers as well as state and local funders, the majority of which are new to immigrant-related grantmaking. Each collaborative functions independently and with a high degree of variation in terms of their operations, funding approach, priorities and relationship with grantees. One member of GCIR's network is the Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative, which is made up of more than 40 stakeholder groups, including nonprofits, law schools, private foundations and the City of Houston. Through HILSC, Houston funders have raised more than \$1.7 million to help low-income families access high-quality immigration legal services and have strengthened regional capacity and infrastructure. GCIR supports HILSC's and other communities' efforts by leveraging national matching funds, providing technical assistance, facilitating information sharing across regions, monitoring national policy developments and documenting best practices.

Speakers:

- *Felecia Bartow, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees*
- *Amanda Cloud, The Simmons Foundation*
- *Jessica Bearman, Bearman Consulting (moderator)*

Collaboration Fast Facts

<i>Name</i>	Delivering on the Dream
<i>Partner composition</i>	A network of 12 local collaboratives, each engaging partners across sectors
<i>Geographic region(s) served</i>	Arkansas, California, Colorado, Illinois, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee and Texas
<i>Issue area(s)</i>	Immigration relief and reform
<i>Duration of collaboration</i>	2012 – present

4:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Active Hour

Join an Active Hour activity to decompress, renew your energy and make connections. Preregistration is required, and space is limited. To learn more and to sign up, please visit the conference registration desk.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Evening Reception

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

Gather with other conference participants to savor the tastes of Texas and exercise your collaboration muscles in a more relaxed, informal setting. Grab a peer and join in some collaboration-related games, including table tennis, foosball, pool, cornhole and giant Jenga.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Dine Arounds

Off-site

Join a group of your colleagues for dinner and informal conversation. The only cost to you is the cost of your meal at a reasonably priced restaurant located near the hotel. You can view restaurant options and sign up to join or host a group at the conference registration desk. **Diners should meet in the hotel lobby for a 7:00 p.m. departure.**

TUESDAY NOV 17

6:30 – 7:30 a.m.

Active Hour

Join an Active Hour activity to decompress, renew your energy and make connections. Preregistration is required, and space is limited. To learn more and to sign up, please visit the conference registration desk.

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

Enjoy a breakfast buffet as you network with other conference participants and carry on the conversation from the previous day's sessions.

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Home Team Meetup #2: The Lessons

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

Immediately following the networking breakfast, please make your way to your Home Team's table in the ballroom for your second group activity.

While many collaborations run smoothly, some are difficult efforts that teach valuable lessons about how we work as individuals and in teams. This Home Team meetup will provide a safe space for you and your teammates to unpack your experiences with collaborations that stall or fail, identify common points of struggle, and capture key lessons learned. By articulating and sharing what hasn't worked well, you will connect through shared experience and be better able to recognize common themes and what to do differently next time. Find your worksheet on page 30.

Speaker:

Kate Hanisian, Design Impact

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**Skill-Building Workshops (Select one of seven options)****W1. Strengthen Your Collaborative Leadership Skills***Magnolia (Third Level)**Session designer: Chris Thompson, Fund for Our Economic Future*

As advocates and supporters of effective cross-sector collaborations, grantmakers can play a critical role well beyond being a source of money. When grantmakers engage in the collaborative process, they can provide valued direction and leadership and can work with other stakeholders to develop shared understanding, agree to common goals and take collective action. Effective collaboration is dependent on collaborative leadership, which requires a different mindset and skillset than organizational leadership does. This workshop provides a safe, peer-to-peer learning environment, outside of the pressure cooker of our collaboration arenas, for grantmakers to practice and strengthen the key collaborative leadership skills of inquiry, building trust and understanding context. Through a series of interactive exercises, you will emerge from the workshop with greater confidence in your ability to exercise collaborative leadership, as well as a set of tools you can use to strengthen your own skills and the skills of others.

Speakers:

- Mark Scheffler, Leadership Akron
- Marcy Levy Shankman, Cleveland Leadership Center
- Chris Thompson, Fund for Our Economic Future

W2. Don't Let Culture Eat Collaboration for Breakfast*Cottonwood (Third Level)**Session designer: Rachel Mosher-Williams, Community Wealth Partners*

Culture influences how decisions are made, how strategies are evaluated and how work gets done. Yet rarely do grantmakers and their partners take the time to intentionally build shared culture in the spaces where they collaborate. Instead, culture among collaborators too often develops unintentionally and reflects a lack of trust and alignment that may exist among stakeholders. Navigating the group dynamics associated with leadership, trust building, alignment, transparency and open communications within the collaborative context is especially hard for grantmakers, who also must navigate the power dynamics inherent in their status as funders. Through group exercises and one-on-one challenge sharing, this session will take you through the characteristics of healthy and sustainable collaboration culture. Speakers will share examples and tools for handling cultural challenges both within a foundation and within collective efforts, as well as a set of guiding questions for intentionally building culture through identifying values, norms and behaviors. You will practice an approach to naming challenges and discussing them in a safe and productive way, equipping you to initiate culture discussions when you return home.

Speakers:

- Amy Celep, Community Wealth Partners
- Uma Kotagal, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
- Karen Ortiz, Helios Education Foundation

W3. Tools for Collective Sensemaking

Dogwood (Third Level)

Session designers: Srik Gopal and Hallie Preskill, FSG

“Gettin’ good players is easy. Gettin’ ‘em to play together is the hard part,” said baseball legend Casey Stengel. This holds true in the social sector, too. Working with others to make sense of experiences, data and our own mental models can be difficult, but it is critically important to achieving the social changes we desire. The aim of this session is to engage participants in learning about two tools — systems mapping and appreciative inquiry — that can help partners analyze and understand complexities. While different in design and implementation, these tools help collaborators build relationships and improve their capacity to plan and pursue shared goals and objectives. Speakers will present tools and facilitate a discussion around real-life application to help you understand when and why each one is useful. Then, you will engage in small-group exercises to build introductory skills using the tools so that you can apply them in your work to support relationship building, generate and test solutions, build consensus on strategies and tactics, and envision a shared goal.

Speakers:

- Srik Gopal, FSG
- Cris Kutzli, Grand Rapids Community Foundation
- Hallie Preskill, FSG

W4. Investing in Capacity to Work With Communities

Arboretum 1-2 (Second Level)

Session designer: Jeff Raderstrong, Living Cities

The surge of interest around collective impact and other forms of collaboration highlights an important concern for many grantmakers and nonprofit practitioners: Where does the community fit in? Even with a growing number of resources on how to collaborate effectively, involving community members and beneficiaries in an authentic way remains a challenge. As a result, some collaborative initiatives receive criticism for being too “top-down” or offering solutions that are not informed by community experiences. As a funder of several place-based, cross-sector partnerships, Living Cities has explored how grantmakers can best invest in the capacity of grantees and their own organizations to better involve residents and community groups, and integrate community feedback into the design and execution of programs. In this session, you’ll hear from Living Cities and two of its cross-sector partners about what types of capacity are needed for effective community engagement. You’ll also put these lessons into practice by designing a hypothetical community engagement strategy for yourself or your grantees. This small-group exercise along with facilitated conversations will illuminate both the primary challenges associated with involving community members and best practices for investing in these capacities to support grantees.

Speakers:

- Theresa Gardella, Nexus Community Partners
- Frank Mirabal, City of Albuquerque
- Jeff Raderstrong, Living Cities

W5. Facing Funders' Challenges in Walking the Talk

Arboretum 3-4 (Second Level)

Session designers: Courtney Bourns, Henry P. Kendall Foundation, and Marianne Hughes, Interaction Institute for Social Change

Grantmakers who actively participate in collaborations or networks (not just fund them) encounter many “gray areas” around role clarity, power dynamics, distributed leadership, strategy development and more, where theory doesn’t always work in practice. Consequently, staff may wrestle with questions such as: How does my foundation fulfill its role as both a full participant and also as a funder that must evaluate the success of the effort? How do I allow for organic progress and strategic direction to emerge while still reporting back to leadership about “results”? What do I do when others look to me to resolve conflict or sway a decision if I don’t want to disrupt carefully built, genuine relationships with nonprofit and community colleagues? Using the speakers’ experiences with various networks as a starting place, this workshop will offer peer coaching and problem solving. Come prepared to share your own story, ask questions about the challenges you currently face and offer advice to peers. Take part in activities designed around listening to and supporting one another and sharing wisdom on how to handle tricky situations.

Speakers:

- *Courtney Bourns, Henry P. Kendall Foundation*
- *Marianne Hughes, Interaction Institute for Social Change*

W6. Using Artistic Experiences to Facilitate Community Change

Arboretum 5 (Second Level)

Session designer: Richard Evans, EmcArts, Inc.

Communities need unconventional approaches that bring multiple viewpoints together to develop new ways to make progress, and grantmakers need to know how to support these approaches. Earlier this year, cross-sector representatives in two cities — Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Providence, Rhode Island — began piloting the “Community Innovation Lab” framework to help solve complex, systemic challenges. Winston-Salem seeks to reduce economic disparities along race, class and social lines, while Providence focuses on issues of community safety and cultural life. The lab approach puts artists and artistic experiences at the heart of a co-designed and facilitated change process. This workshop introduces the five stages of the framework and offers a deeper dive into the first stage — a process to recruit and nurture local champions. You will use a framework to identify and explore complex challenges, complete a hands-on activity that demonstrates how to identify champions, and learn about how artists can contribute uniquely to the change process. You will have space to reflect on how a similar framework might be applied in your community.

Speakers:

- *Richard Evans, EmcArts, Inc.*
- *Lynne McCormack, City of Providence*

W7. Putting an Intersectional Approach Into Practice

Window Box (Second Level)

Session designer: Frances Kunreuther, Building Movement Project

With the Supreme Court's ruling that marriage equality is the law of the land, there is no denying the astounding and important success of campaigns for marriage equality. But as LGBT leaders look ahead to what's next for the movement, there have been concerns that the campaign for marriage equality failed to build deep ties with potential allies on other key issues, such as employment discrimination, immigrant rights and transgender justice. The unintended consequences of a single-issue approach have pushed advocates on the ground to seek more intersectional strategies. This method broadens the vision and tactics used for making change by examining how different issues intersect and interact. During this session, you will hear from an organizer putting an intersectional approach into practice along with funders that support intersectional alliance building around the country. Speakers will share their strategies for investing in activities that build trust among different types of organizations, issues and approaches, while also being realistic about the challenges this presents for nonprofits, activists and funders alike. This workshop will help you consider how to integrate a larger set of concerns into your own work, as you gain a deeper understanding of how intersectional alliances operate, the infrastructure required to maintain them and the tangible results they can achieve.

Speakers:

- *Adriann Barboa, Forward Together*
- *Desiree Flores, Arcus Foundation*
- *Rebecca Fox, Wellspring Advisors*
- *Sean Thomas-Breitfeld, Building Movement Project (moderator)*

12:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Please locate your Home Team's table in the ballroom and sit with your teammates for lunch. Over networking and nourishment, you will complete your final group activity. The closing plenary program will begin immediately following the meal service.

Home Team Meetup #3: The Actions

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

It can be difficult to make the transition from conference-based learning to specific applications and improvements in our work efforts at home. This final Home Team meetup offers participants a chance to reflect on conference takeaways and commit to a future action. Each team member will set and record a specific and attainable collaboration goal for her/himself. Later you will share your goal with a partner, who will provide suggestions for achieving it as well as some peer-based accountability. Find your worksheet on pages 31 – 32.

Speaker:

Kate Hanisian, Design Impact

Closing Plenary: What Do Nonprofit Leaders Really Think of Collaboration?

Imperial Ballroom (Third Level)

While it is critical for grantmakers to align strategies and resources, collaborative efforts should also engage nonprofit grantees in order to address the complex issues and challenges our communities face. During this moderated conversation, two nonprofit leaders, Rea Carey of the National LGBTQ Task Force and Hellen Hong of First Place for Youth, who have experience participating in multiple forms of collaboration will discuss the challenges of working in a networked way. They'll share how funders can contribute to and, conversely, be counterproductive to their success. Speakers will draw from their experiences to discuss the value of funder practices that prioritize transparency and deep engagement, help connect people and groups working in common areas, and signal a long-term commitment to shared goals.

Speakers:



*Rea Carey,
National LGBTQ
Task Force*



*Hellen Hong,
First Place for Youth*



*Sidney R. Hargro,
Community Foundation
of South Jersey
(moderator)*



MEETUP #1: THE TRAITS

MY HOME TEAM MEMBERS

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.....
.....

MY COMMITMENT COMPANION

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Name	Contact info

HOME TEAM GROUND RULES

- Show up and be present
- Share the floor
- Learn from others and help draw others out
- Share the hard stuff, but whatever is said in the room stays in the room
- Listen for your team's ambassador
- Have fun and make new connections

PAIR SHARE

With your Commitment Companion, discuss ONE top-of-mind collaboration question or challenge you are each facing that could benefit from peer input at this conference.

MEETUP #1: PERSONA SKETCH

DIRECTIONS

Describe the traits of the best collaborator you know.

How does she/he communicate?



What does she/he care about?
How do you know?

What does she/he bring to the table?
What does she/he give?



What are her/his days like?
Where do you find her/him?





SELF-REFLECTION HOMEWORK

When you have time, consider the questions below.

Which of these traits do I have or bring to my work?

Which do I have on my team at home?

Which do we need?



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Throughout the conference and when you get home, ask your peers and co-workers: What makes a great collaborator? Tell me a story about the best collaborator you know.



MEETUP #2: THE LESSONS

DIRECTIONS

Describe a time when a collaboration you participated in and/or supported stalled or did not work.

What happened?

What were you thinking or feeling at the time?

How did you contribute to the outcomes?

Looking back, what would you do differently next time?

TEAM HUDDLE

As a team, lift up and discuss the collaboration lessons that are common among the group.



MEETUP #3: THE ACTIONS

DIRECTIONS

Use the space below to scribble some ideas for a New Year's resolution about the action steps you wish to take to improve collaboration in your work. What did you learn or discuss at the conference that you want to take home with you? What traits do you aspire to work on and improve? How do you wish to become a better partner to others? Be specific.

When you have filled in the "I Will..." box below with your draft thoughts, pick one action step to write on a self-addressed postcard, found on your table. GEO will mail your completed postcard to you in January 2016.

IN THE NEW YEAR I WILL...

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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Throughout the conference and when you get home, ask your peers and co-workers: What is the best piece of advice about collaboration that you have ever received?

MEETUP #3: THE ACTIONS

SAVE THE DATE

Put this on your calendar. On the date and time written above, my Commitment Companion and I will check back in with each other on the progress of our action steps.

YOUR COMMITMENT COMPANION'S ACTION STEPS

Jot down a few notes to help you remember your Commitment Companion's action steps for the New Year so that you can support him or her in staying accountable.

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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

How am I at collaborating? What do I need to work on?
With whom could we partner to make our work even stronger?

NETWORKINGBINGO

B	I	N	G	O
<p>Works for a community foundation</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>First time attending a GEO conference</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Has a staff role similar to yours</p> <p>Role: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Works for a foundation that funds outside the U.S.</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Played a game at the evening reception</p> <p>Game: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>
<p>Has run/walked a 5K, 10K, or half or full marathon</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>From or currently lives in TX</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Involved in a funder collaborative</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Downloaded GEO's conference app</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Gives GOS, multiyear or capacity-building support</p> <p>SIG:</p>
<p>Part of a public-private partnership</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Speaks more than one language</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>FREE SPACE</p>	<p>First time visiting Houston</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Supports evaluation of networks</p> <p>SIG:</p>
<p>Attended the same case study conversation as you</p> <p>Case: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Tweeted @GEOfundors #GEOCC</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Works for a health foundation</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Speaker at GEO's Collaboration Conference 2015</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Has visited the state where you work</p> <p>State: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>
<p>Has read a GEO publication</p> <p>Pub: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Supports grantee learning communities</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>A Home Team Ambassador</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Planning to attend GEO's 2016 National Conference</p> <p>SIG:</p>	<p>Has a similar funding focus to yours</p> <p>Focus: _____</p> <p>SIG:</p>

NETWORKINGBINGO

HOW TO PLAY

Make new and unexpected connections! On the reverse side of this sheet, find your Networking Bingo playing card. Each square contains a potential characteristic of a fellow conference participant. Throughout the conference, collect at least one unique signature from a participant who has that specific characteristic. Your ultimate goal is "BINGO" (five consecutive signatures horizontally, vertically or diagonally).



**COLLABORATION
CONFERENCE 2015**

Your Name

.....

Organization

.....

Mobile Phone

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Email

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HOW TO WIN AN IPAD MINI!

Once you have BINGO, tear out and drop your completed card into the Networking Bingo Box located at registration. Your card will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win an iPad Mini. Remember to include your name and contact information to complete your card.

**Cards must be turned in
by Tuesday, November 17
at 8:00 a.m.**

**The winner will be
announced at the
networking breakfast,
so be sure you're there
to claim your prize!**

GEO PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

GEO publications keep grantmakers informed of the emerging trends, debates and practices from the field of philanthropy. The following are available in hard copy. Please indicate how many copies you would like to order and fill out the form on the back.

- _____ *Building Collaboration From the Inside Out*
- _____ *Learning Together: Actionable Approaches for Grantmakers*
- _____ *Is Grantmaking Getting Smarter?*
- _____ *Many Hands, More Impact: Philanthropy's Role in Supporting Movements*
- _____ *Cracking the Network Code: Four Principles for Grantmakers*
- _____ *Pathways to Grow Impact: Philanthropy's Role in the Journey*
- _____ *Learn and Let Learn: Supporting Learning Communities for Innovation and Impact*
- _____ *Four Essentials for Evaluation*
- _____ *Catalyzing Networks for Social Change*
- _____ *Widespread Empathy: 5 Steps to Achieving Greater Impact in Philanthropy*

You can access digital copies of all GEO publications, including online-only titles like *Strategic Co-Funding: An Approach for Expanded Impact* and *Working Better Together: Building Nonprofit Collaborative Capacity*, through our online Resource Library, located at www.geofunders.org.

RAVE

Positive feedback helps us know what worked well and what to repeat at future conferences. Please take a moment to let us know what was good, great or outstanding about your experience at this event. Put your completed card in any of the evaluation drop boxes or hand it to a GEO staffer.

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GEO PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

To order print copies of GEO publications, fill out your contact information below and drop this card off at the registration desk or in any of the evaluation drop boxes. GEO members receive printed copies of all GEO publications in the mail as soon as they are available, and can order up to 15 more complimentary copies. Nonmembers may purchase printed copies of publications for \$12 each, plus shipping costs. Contact Shayda Rezazad, at 202.898.1840 or rezazad@geofunders.org, with any questions.

Name

Organization

Address

City

State

ZIP code

Phone ()

Email

RANT

In what ways could this conference be improved? We can't learn from our mistakes unless we know about them, so please share with us your feedback. Put your completed card in any of the evaluation drop boxes or hand it to a GEO staffer.

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Grantmakers for Effective Organizations challenges the status quo in a field often resistant to change.



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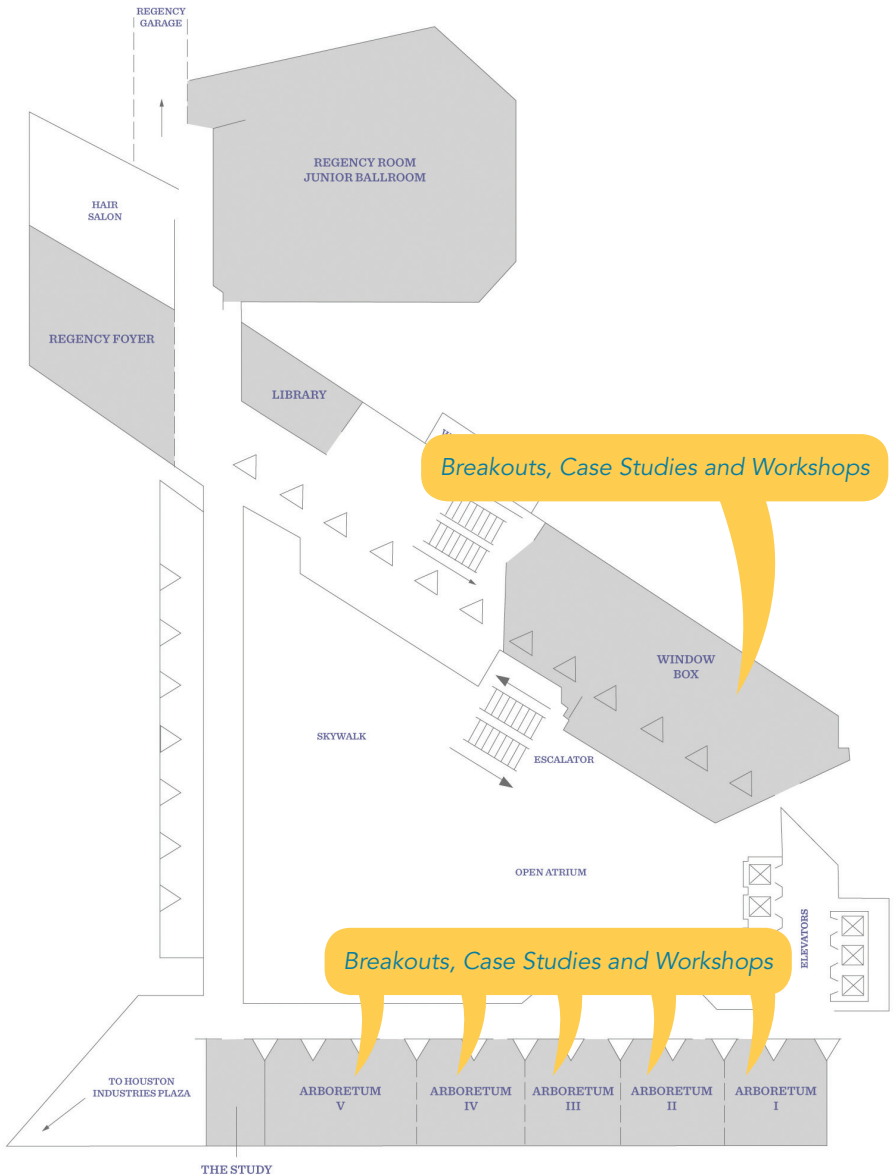
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GEO's 2016 National
Conference**

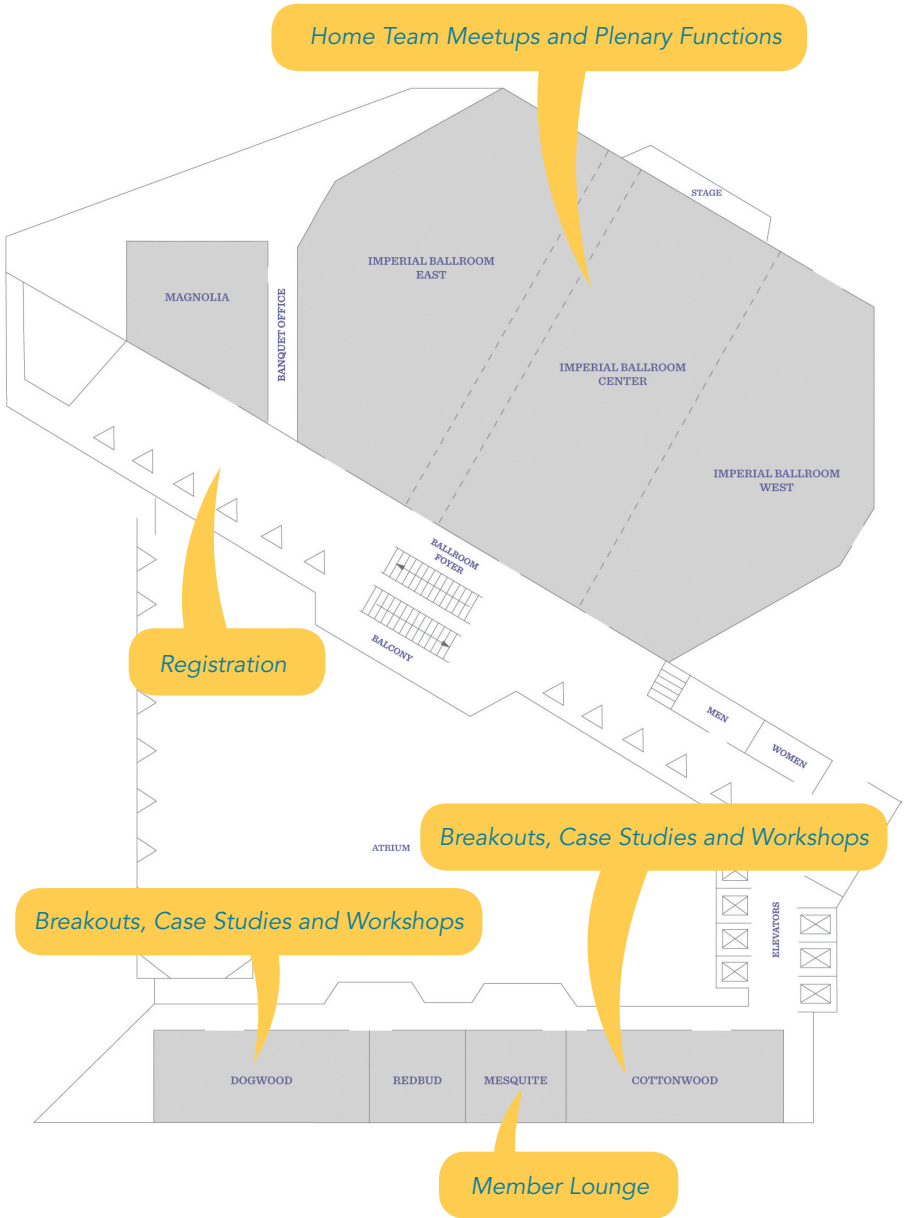
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Registration opens to
GEO members on Tuesday,
January 5, 2016**



SECONDFLOORLEVEL



THIRDFLOORLEVEL



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